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Renewal of Federal Block Grant Sought

The Utah Department of Health is asking for public comment on the renewal of its federal Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant for federal fiscal year 2008. A public hearing is scheduled on September 20, 2007 from 2:00-3:00 p.m., at the Cannon Health Building at 288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City. Please check at the front desk for room number.

Specifically, the Department would like to know if the public has ideas on how the grant funds, \$946,000, could be spent in Utah to meet the Nation's Healthy People 2010 public health objectives. Currently, the block grant funds are used by local health departments for preventive health services, including childhood obesity prevention and increasing teens' seat belt use. A federally mandated set aside in the block grant funds rape crises and prevention services. The block grant also provides supplemental funding for Utah Department of Health programs addressing obesity prevention, unintentional injury prevention, community health assessment, and environmental epidemiology studies.

Copies of the grant proposal will be available at the Utah Department of Health. The 2008 proposal will also be posted by August 19, 2007 on the internet at http://health.utah.gov/phhsbg. Written questions or comments should be directed to LaDene Larsen, Utah Department of Health, Division of Community and Family Health Services, PO Box 142107, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2107 or e-mail at ladenelarsen@utah.gov. Ms. Larsen can be reached by telephone at 801.538.6220. The final date for comments is October 14, 2007.

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodation to attend or fully participate in this hearing should contact Ms. Larsen by September 17, 2007 to request reasonable accommodations.